

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-6, 9-10, 12, and 13 are pending in this Application. Claims 7, 8, and 11 are canceled by this Amendment. The Examiner's indication that claim 13 is allowed, and that claims 8 and 11 contain patentable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the features of allowable dependent claim 8. Therefore, amended independent claim 1 is the same as allowable dependent claim 8 re-written in independent form. For this reason, independent claim 1, and dependent claims 2-6 are allowable.

Independent claim 9 has been amended to include all of the features of allowable dependent claim 11. Therefore, amended independent claim 9 is the same as allowable dependent claim 11 re-written in independent form. For this reason, independent claim 9, and dependent claims 10 and 12 are allowable.

With these amendments, the Applicant submit that the application is in condition for allowance. The Applicants therefore do not specifically address the Examiner's rejections, except to state that the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's rejection based on the use of the term "flange." It is unclear how the Examiner can argue that the claimed flange is not a flange, as that term is commonly used in the art.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment and allowance of claims 1-6, 9-10, and 12, in addition to the previous allowance of claim 13, are respectfully requested.

The undersigned attorney is available for telephone conference at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Kaiser". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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